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Evolution by Coöperation by Hermann Reinheimer

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*Evolution by Coöperation.* By HERMANN REINHEIMER. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company, 1913.

A volume devoted to a study and interpretation of the co-ordinated relationships in the plant and animal world. Just as human society rests upon coöperation both direct and indirect, teleological and fortuitous, so in the biological world "everything is complementary to something else." This bio-economic relationship of mutual dependence is well-illustrated by the bee and the flower. Symbiosis, cross-fertilization, seed-distribution by birds and animals, grass consumption and fertilization, the support of the fauna by the flora of a region—all these are phenomena of biological reciprocity. Parasitism on the one hand and predatory plundering on the other are phenomena of degeneration. The author elevates nutrition to a principle of the first order in the explanation of survival and evolution. He attributes to the Malthus-Darwin theory only a negative value in vaguely pointing to necessity as a factor in evolution. He holds that far greater importance is to be attached to "the pressure which constrains organisms in hundreds of ways to remain physiologically and biologically coöperative, under penalty of a variety of more or less painful and more or less chronic reactions." Bio-economic coöperation thus becomes the key to evolution in the plant and animal worlds, rather than natural selection; work—peaceful, mutual, dependent, coöordinated usefulness—replaces struggle or death as the chief factor in the process of perfecting life.

The author has written a suggestive book. The student of society must be struck by this new emphasis upon coöperation, social coördination and social solidarity, at a time when competition—the counterpart of the struggle for existence—is being vigorously attacked from so many different angles.

F. H. HANKINS.

*Latin America: Addresses delivered at Clark University.* Edited by GEORGE H. BLAKESLEE. New York: G. E. Stechert and Company, 1914.

Appearing at this juncture the twenty-nine papers in this volume are of absorbing interest. They have appeared in the pages of the JOURNAL OF RACE DEVELOPMENT during the year, but it is good to see them in book form. The articles treat of "The Mexican Situation," "The Monroe Doctrine," "Trade and Business